FINANCIAL REPORT WITH SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Year Ended March 31, 2008

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Mark J. Campbell

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CAMPBELL, KUSTERER & CO., P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

July 21, 2008

To the Fire Board Vanderbilt Corwith Fire and Rescue Board Otsego County, Michigan

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of Vanderbilt Corwith Fire and Rescue Board, Otsego County, Michigan as of and for the year ended March 31, 2008, which collectively comprise the Fire Board's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of Vanderbilt Corwith Fire and Rescue Board's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Vanderbilt Corwith Fire and Rescue Board, Otsego County, Michigan as of March 31, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position thereof, for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis and budgetary comparison information listed in the table of contents are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management, regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

CAMPBELL, KUSTERER & CO., P.C. & CO., P.C. Certified Public Accountants

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

For the year ended March 31, 2008

The Management's Discussion and Analysis report of the Vanderbilt Corwith Fire and Rescue Board covers the Fire Board's financial performance during the year ended March 31, 2008.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Our financial status remained stable over the last year. Net assets at March 31, 2008, totaled \$304,810.24 for governmental activities. Overall total capital assets increased due to the renovations on the tanker.

Overall revenues were \$138,455.41.

OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This annual report consists of three parts, management's discussion and analysis, the basic financial statements and required supplementary information. The basic financial statements include two different kinds of statements that present different views of the Fire Board and the notes to the financial statements.

The first two statements are entity-wide financial statements and provide both long and short-term information about our overall financial status. These statements present governmental activities.

The remaining statements are fund financial statements, which focus on individual parts of the Fire Board in more detail.

The notes to the financial statements explain some of the information in the statements and provide more detailed data.

Required supplementary information further explains and supports the financial statement information with budgetary comparisons.

ENTITY-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The entity-wide statements report information about the Fire Board as a whole using accounting methods used by private companies. The statement of net assets includes all of the Fire Board's assets and liabilities. The statement of activities records all of the current year revenues and expenses regardless of when received or paid.

The two entity-wide statements report net assets and how they have changed. Net assets are the difference between the entity's assets and liabilities and this is one method to measure the entity's financial health or position.

Over time increases/decreases in the entity's net assets are an indicator of whether financial position is improving or deteriorating.

To assess overall health of the entity you may also have to consider additional factors such as tax base changes, facility conditions and personnel changes.

All of the activities of the Fire Board are reported as governmental activities. These include the General Fund.

CONDENSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION For the year ended March 31, 2008

	Total Governmental Activities 2008
Current Assets Capital Assets	194 682 193 604
Total Assets	388 286
Current Liabilities Non-current Liabilities	83_476
Total Liabilities	<u>83 476</u>
Net Assets: Invested in Capital	
Assets Unrestricted	110 128 194 682
Total Net Assets	304 810
	Total
	Governmental Activities 2008
General Revenues: Property Taxes Interest Miscellaneous	135 555 2 816 84
Total Revenues	138 455
Program Expenses: Public Safety Interest on Long-Term Debt	92 866 6 <u>541</u>
Total Expenses	99 407
Increase in Net Assets	
more debe in 11017 leading	39 048
Net Assets, April 1	39 048 265 762

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

For the year ended March 31, 2008

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the Fire Board's funds, focusing on significant (major) funds not the Fire Board as a whole. Funds are used to account for specific activities or funding sources. Some funds are required by law or bond covenants. The Fire Board also may create them. Funds are established to account for funding and spending of specific financial resources and to show proper expenditures of those resources.

The Fire Board has the following types of funds:

Governmental funds: All of the Fire Board's activities are included in the governmental category. These funds are presented on the modified accrual basis, which is designed to show short-term financial information. You will note that the differences between the Fire Board's entity-wide statements and the fund statements are disclosed in reconciling statements to explain the differences between them. The Fire Board's governmental activities include the General Fund.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE FIRE BOARD AS A WHOLE

Our largest expenditures are in the capital outlay and debt service categories, accounting for approximately one half of our expenditures.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE FIRE BOARD'S FUNDS

The General Fund pays for all of the Fire Board's governmental services.

CAPITAL ASSET AND LONG-TERM DEBT ACTIVITY

The Fire Board's governmental activities invested \$0 in capital assets.

The Fire Board's governmental activities paid \$31,904.60 of principal on long-term debt.

KNOWN FACTORS AFFECTING FUTURE OPERATIONS

Passage of the 2.0 mill, 5 year property tax levy assures funding for the next 4 years.

CONTACTING THE FIRE BOARD'S MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our investors and customers with a general overview of the Fire Board's finances and to demonstrate the Fire Board's accountability for the revenues it receives. If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact the Fire Board Clerk or Fire Board Treasurer at 989-983-2865.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS March 31, 2008

	Governmental <u>Activities</u>
ASSETS: CURRENT ASSETS: Cash in bank Taxes receivable	179 592 44 15 089 61
Total Current Assets	<u>194 682 05</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS: Capital Assets Less: Accumulated Depreciation	235 062 61 (41 458 46)
Total Non-current Assets	<u>193 604 15</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	388 286 20
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS:	
LIABILITIES: CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Total Current Liabilities	
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES: Note payable	<u>83 475 96</u>
Total Non-current Liabilities	<u>83 475 96</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>83 475 96</u>
NET ASSETS: Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt Unrestricted	110 128 19 194 682 05
Total Net Assets	304 810 24
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	388 286 20

GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES Year ended March 31, 2008

		Program <u>Revenue</u>	Governmental Activities
FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS	Expenses	Charges for Services	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Assets
Governmental Activities:			
Public safety	92 866 01	-	(92 866 01)
Interest on long-term debt	6 540 7 <u>2</u>		(6 540 72)
Total Governmental Activities	99 406 73		(99 406 73)
General Revenues: Property taxes Interest Miscellaneous			135 555 33 2 815 85 84 23
Total General Revenues			<u> 138 455 41</u>
Change in net assets			39 048 68
Net assets, beginning of year			<u>265 761 56</u>
Net Assets, End of Year			304 810 24

BALANCE SHEET – GOVERNMENTAL FUND March 31, 2008

	Total
	(General)
<u>Assets</u>	
Cash in bank	179 404 04
Taxes receivable	15 089 61
Due from others	188 40
Total Assets	<u>194 682 05</u>
Liabilities and Fund Equity	
Liabilities	-
Total liabilities	-
Fund equity:	
Fund balance:	
Unreserved:	404 000 05
Undesignated	194 682 05
Total fund equity	194 682 05
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	194 682 05

RECONCILIATION OF BALANCE SHEET OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND TO THE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS March 31, 2008

TOTAL FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

194 682 05

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because –

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the governmental funds balance sheet:

Capital assets at cost
Accumulated depreciation

235 062 61

(41 458 46)

Long-term debt liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the governmental funds:

Note payable

(83 475 96)

TOTAL NET ASSETS - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

304 810 24

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE – GOVERNMENTAL FUND Year ended March 31, 2008

	Total
	(General)
Revenues:	
Property tax	135 555 33
Interest	2 815 85
Miscellaneous	<u>84 23</u>
Total revenues	<u> 138 455 41</u>
Expenditures:	
Public safety:	
Fire protection:	
Wages	33 767 54
Payroll taxes	2 583 21
Insurance	13 033 00
Repairs and maintenance	10 224 55
Supplies	7 773 05
Telephone Utilities	2 883 86 5 956 48
Training	1 326 54
Audit	1 500 00
Miscellaneous	2 024 65
Debt service	38 445 32
Total expenditures	119 518 20
Excess of revenues over expenditures	18 937 21
Fund balance, April 1	<u>175 744 84</u>
Fund Balance, March 31	194 682 05

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES Year ended March 31, 2008

NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE - TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND

18 937 21

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures; in the Statement of Activities, these costs are allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation

Depreciation Expense Capital Outlay

(1179313)

Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, the repayment does not have an effect in the statement of activities but does reduce the debt balance in the statement of net assets.

Principal payments on long-term debt

31 904 60

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

39 048 68

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS March 31, 2008

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies of the Vanderbilt Corwith Fire and Rescue Board, Otsego County, Michigan, conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental units.

Reporting Entity

The financial statements of the Fire Board contain all the Fire Board funds that are controlled by or dependent on the Fire Board's executive or legislative branches.

The reporting entity is the Vanderbilt Corwith Fire and Rescue Board. The Fire Board is governed by an appointed Fire Board. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, these financial statements present the Fire Board as the primary government.

The Fire Board was organized in 1992 and includes the Village of Vanderbilt and the Township of Corwith. The governing Fire Board consists of 5 members – two appointed by each local unit of government and the fifth member is appointed by the other members. The Fire Board provides fire protection services to the local units and is considered a separate entity.

Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements, (the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Changes in Net Assets) report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the primary government. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, normally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support. All the Fire Board's government-wide activities are considered governmental activities.

The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function. Program revenues include: (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods, services or privileges provided by a given function; and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function. Taxes, intergovernmental payments and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported as general revenue.

Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenue in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. When an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available, restricted resources are applied first.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recognized as soon as it is both measurable and available. Revenue is considered to be available if it is collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS March 31, 2008

Note 1 – <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u> (continued)

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation (continued)

considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, expenditures relating to compensated absences, and claims and judgments are recorded only when payment is due.

The Fire Board reports only one fund as follows:

The General Fund is used to record the operations of the Fire Board which pertain to maintaining and operating the Fire Board. Included are all transactions related to the approved current operating budget.

Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets or Equity

Bank deposits and investments – Cash and cash equivalent investments include cash on hand, demand deposits, certificates of deposit and short-term investments with a maturity of three months or less when acquired. Investments are stated at fair value.

Receivables

Receivables have been recognized for all significant amounts due to the Fire Board. Allowances for uncollectible accounts have not been provided for in that collection is not considered doubtful and any uncollected amount would be immaterial.

Inventories

Inventories of supplies are considered to be immaterial and are not recorded.

Property Taxes

Property taxes and other revenue that are both measurable and available for use to finance operations are recorded as revenue when earned

Properties are assessed as of December 31 and the related property taxes become a lien on December 1 of the following year. These taxes are due on February 14 with the final collection date of February 28 before they are added to the county tax rolls. The 2007 tax roll millage rate was 2.00 mills, and the taxable value was \$67,016,343.00.

Encumbrances

Encumbrances involving the current recognition of purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for future expenditures are not recorded.

Capital Assets

Capital assets are defined by the Fire Board as assets with an initial cost of more than \$3,000.00 and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Donated assets are reported at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. Additions, improvements and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other costs incurred for repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. Depreciation on all assets is provided on the straight-line basis over the following estimated useful lives:

Equipment 10-20 years

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS March 31, 2008

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Compensated Absences (Vacation and Sick Leave)

Employees are not allowed to accumulate vacation and sick pay.

Post-employment Benefits

The Fire Board provides no post-employment benefits to past employees.

Fund Equity

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

Note 2 - Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The following procedures are followed in establishing the budgetary data reflected in these financial statements:

- 1. Prior to the beginning of the fiscal year, the proposed budget for each budgetary fund is submitted to the Fire Board for consideration.
- 2. The proposed budgets include expenditures as well as the methods of financing them.
- 3. Public hearings are held to obtain taxpayer comments.
- 4. The budgets are adopted at the activity level by a majority vote of the Fire Board.
- 5. The budgets are adopted on the modified accrual basis of accounting.
- The originally adopted budgets can be amended during the year only by a majority vote of the Fire Board.
- 7. The adopted budgets are used as a management control device during the year for all budgetary funds.
- 8. Budget appropriations lapse at the end of each fiscal year.
- 9. The budgeted amounts shown in these financial statements are the originally adopted budgets with all amendments that were approved by the Fire Board during the fiscal year.

Note 3 - Deposits and Investments

Michigan Compiled Laws, Section 129.91, authorizes the Fire Board to deposit and invest in the accounts of federally insured banks, credit unions, and savings and loan associations; bonds, securities and other direct obligations of the United States, or any agency or instrumentality of the United States; United States government or federal agency obligation repurchase agreements; banker's acceptance of United States banks; commercial paper rated within the two highest classifications, which mature not more than 270 days after the date purchase; obligations of the State of Michigan or its political subdivisions which are rated as investment grade; and mutual funds composed of investment vehicles which are legal for direct investment by local units of government in Michigan. Financial institutions eligible for deposit of public funds must maintain an office in Michigan.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS March 31, 2008

Note 3 - Deposits and Investments (continued)

The Fire Board has designated one bank for the deposit of Fire Board funds. The investment policy adopted by the board in accordance with Public Act 196 of 1997 has authorized investment in all investments authorized by state law as listed above.

The Fire Board's deposits and investments are in accordance with statutory authority.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 3, risk disclosures for the cash deposits are as follows:

	Carrying
	Amounts
Total Deposits	179.404.04

Amounts in the bank balances are without considering deposits in transit or uncleared checks.

	Bank <u>Balances</u>
Insured (FDIC) Uninsured and Uncollateralized	100 000 00 77 007 83
Total Deposits	177 007 83

The Fire Board did not have any investments as of March 31, 2008.

Disclosures Relating to Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Generally, the longer the maturity of an investment, the greater the sensitivity of its fair value to changes in market interest rates. One of the ways that the Fire Board manages its exposure to interest rate risk is by participating in financial institution pooled funds and in mutual funds which hold diverse investments that are authorized by law for direct investments.

Concentration of Credit Risk

Generally, credit risk the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. The financial institution pooled funds are the mutual funds do not have a rating provided by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

The investment policy of the Fire Board contains no limitations on the amount that can be invested in any one issuer beyond that stipulated by Michigan law.

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, a government will not be able to recover its deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. Michigan law and the Fire Board's investment policy do not contain legal or policy requirements that would limit the exposure to custodial credit risk for deposits.

The custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty (e.g., broker-dealer) to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of another party. Michigan law and the Fire Board's investment policy do not contain legal or policy requirements that would limit the exposure to custodial credit risk for investments. With respect to investment, custodial credit risk generally applies only to direct investments in marketable securities. Custodial credit risk does not apply to a local government's indirect investment in securities though the use of mutual funds or government investment pools.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS March 31, 2008

Note 4 - Capital Assets

Capital asset activity of the Fire Board's Governmental activities for the current year was as follows:

Governmental Activities:	Balance 4/1/07	Additions	Deletions	Balance 3/31/08
Equipment	235 062 61			235 062 61
Total	235 062 61	-	-	235 062 61
Accumulated Depreciation	(29 665 33)	(11 793 13)		(41 458 46)
Net Capital Assets	205 397 28	(11 793 13)		<u>193 604 15</u>

Note 5 - Changes in Governmental Long-Term Debt

A summary of changes in long-term debt follows:

	Balance <u>4/</u> 1/07	Additions	Deletions	Balance 3/31/08
Note payable- fire truck Note payable-	86 673 89	-	(20 214 31)	66 459 58
tanker renovation	28 706 67	<u> </u>	(11 690 29)	<u>17 016 38</u>
Total	115 380 56		(31 904 60)	<u>83 475 96</u>

Note 6 - Note Payable- Fire Truck

On September 22, 2005, the Fire Board obtained a loan in the amount of \$105,990.00 to partially fund the purchase of a fire truck. The loan requires payment in five annual payments in the amount of \$24,244.64 including interest. As of March 31, 2008, the principal balance outstanding was \$66,459.58.

Note 7 - Note Payable- Tanker Renovation

On May 30, 2006, the Fire Board obtained a loan in the amount of \$38,900.00 to fund renovations on a tanker. The loan requires payment in thirty six monthly payments in the amount of \$1,183.39 including interest. As of March 31,2008, the principal balance outstanding was \$17,016.38.

Note 8 - Deferred Compensation Plan

The Fire Board does not have a deferred compensation plan.

Note 9 – Risk Management

The Fire Board is exposed to various risks of loss related to property loss, torts, errors, omissions, and employee injuries (workers' compensation). The Fire Board has purchased commercial insurance for property loss, torts and workers' compensation claims. Settled claims relating to the commercial insurance have not exceeded the amount of insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

Note 10 – Pension Plan

The Fire Board does not have a pension plan.

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - GENERAL FUND Year ended March 31, 2008

				Variance with Final Budget
	Original	Final		Over
	Budget	Budget	Actual	(Under)
Revenues:				
Property taxes	124 943 00	124 943 00	135 555 33	10 612 33
Interest	2 000 00	2 000 00	2 815 85	815 85
Miscellaneous		-	<u>84 23</u>	<u>84 23</u>
Total revenues	126 943 00	126 943 00	138 455 41	<u>11 512 41</u>
Expenditures: Public safety:				
Fire protection	115 990 00	117 990 00	81 072 88	(36 917 12)
Capital outlay	2 500 00	500 00	-	(500 00)
Debt service	<u>38 453 00</u>	<u>38 453 00</u>	38 445 32	(7 68)
Total expenditures	<u>156 943 00</u>	<u>156 943 00</u>	119 518 20	(37 424 80)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues				
over expenditures	(30 000 00)	(30 000 00)	18 937 21	48 937 21
Fund balance, April 1	30 000 00	30 000 00	175 744 84	145 744 84
Fund Balance, March 31		<u> </u>	194 682 05	<u>194 682 05</u>

CAMPBELL, KUSTERER & CO., P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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AUDIT COMMUNICATION AND REPORT OF COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

July 21, 2008

To the Fire Board Vanderbilt Corwith Fire and Rescue Board Otsego County, Michigan

We have audited the financial statements of the Vanderbilt Corwith Fire and Rescue Board for the year ended March 31, 2008. As required by auditing standards generally accepted in the United States, the independent auditor is required to make several communications to the governing body having oversight responsibility for the audit. The purpose of this communication is to provide you with additional information regarding the scope and results of our audit that may assist you with your oversight responsibilities of the financial reporting process for which management is responsible.

<u>AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY UNDER AUDITING STANDARDS GENERALLY ACCEPTED IN THE UNITED STATES</u>

We conducted our audit of the financial statements of the Vanderbilt Corwith Fire and Rescue Board in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. The following paragraph explains our responsibilities under those standards.

Management has the responsibility for adopting sound accounting policies, for maintaining an adequate and effective system of accounts, for the safeguarding of assets, and for devising an internal control structure that will, among other things, help assure the proper recording of transactions. The transactions that should be reflected in the accounts and in the financial statements are matters within the direct knowledge and control of management. Our knowledge of such transactions is limited to that acquired through our audit. Accordingly, the fairness of representations made through the financial statements is an implicit and integral part of management's accounts and records. However, our responsibility for the financial statements is confined to the expression of an opinion on them. The financial statements remain the responsibility of management.

The concept of materiality is inherent in the work of an independent auditor. An auditor places greater emphasis on those items that have, on a relative basis, more importance to the financial statements and greater possibilities of material error than those items of lesser importance or those in which the possibility of material error is remote.

For this purpose, materiality has been defined as "the magnitude of an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would have been changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement."

An independent auditor's objective in an audit is to obtain sufficient competent evidential matter to provide a reasonable basis for forming an opinion on the financial statements. In doing so, the auditor must work within economic limits; the opinion, to be economically useful, must be formed within a reasonable length of time and at reasonable cost. That is why an auditor's work is based on selected tests rather than an attempt to verify all transactions. Since evidence is examined on a test basis only, an audit provides only reasonable assurance, rather than absolute assurance, that financial statements are free of material misstatement. Thus, there is a risk that audited financial statements may contain undiscovered material errors or fraud. The existence of that risk is implicit in the phrase in the audit report, "in our opinion."

To the Fire Board Vanderbilt Corwith Fire and Rescue Board Otsego County, Michigan

In the audit process, we gain an understanding of the internal control structure of an entity for the purpose of assisting in determining the nature, timing, and extent of audit testing. Our understanding is obtained by inquiry of management, testing transactions, and observation and review of documents and records. The amount of work done is not sufficient to provide a basis for an opinion on the adequacy of the internal control structure.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The significant accounting policies are described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

Auditing standards call for us to inform you of other significant issues such as, but not limited to, 1) Accounting estimates that are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements or because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments; 2) Significant audit adjustments that may not have been detected except through the auditing procedures we performed; 3) Disagreements with management regarding the scope of the audit or application of accounting principles; 4) Consultation with other accountants; 5) Major issues discussed with management prior to retention; and 6) Difficulties encountered in performing the audit.

We have no significant issues, regarding these matters, to report to you at this time. Audit adjustments were minimal, and are available to review.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION REGARDING INTERNAL CONTROLS/ COMPLIANCE/ EFFICIENCY

SEGREGATION OF DUTIES

The Fire Board's system of internal control is affected by the size of the staff that it can employ.

The ultimate accounting system would include enough employees to completely segregate all aspects of each transaction. Different departments or individuals would handle: transaction authorization, transaction execution, asset handling, recording of transactions, review of transactions and subsequent control of assets.

The Fire Board cannot enact a complete segregation of all aspects of each transaction due to the nature of local units of government. The "cost to benefit" relationship also would not justify a complete segregation of all duties.

We recommend that the Fire Board Members understand these circumstances when performing their oversight responsibilities.

These conditions were considered in determining the nature, timing and extent of the audit tests to be applied in our audit of the Fire Board's financial statements and this communication of these matters does not affect our report on the Fire Board's financial statements, dated March 31, 2008.

SUMMARY

We welcome any questions you may have regarding the foregoing comments and we would be happy to discuss any of these or other questions that you might have at your convenience.

Sincerely.

Compbell, Kustur & Co., P.C.
CAMPBELL, KUSTERER & CO., P.C.
Certified Public Accountants